

## Assistant Director Leaves

By B.J. Sires Co-Editor



Photo by PSC Communications Department

**Scott Rubin, the former Assistant Director of Housing and Residence Life, held this position since March of 2014.**

September 30th was Scott Rubin's last day at Potomac State College as the Assistant Director of Housing and Residence Life as well as the Resident Hall Coordinator for Friend and Reynolds Halls. This position oversees everything that happens in the residence halls, which includes supervising the 28 Resident Assistants, three or four Resident Hall Coordinators, the maintenance staff and anything within the residence halls themselves.

Rubin accepted a job at the University of Texas at Dallas, Texas. This however, means some big changes for PSC.

The current RHCs have had to take over the responsibilities of the Assistant Director of Housing and

Residence Life. Justin Anderson, the RHC for Catamount Place, has taken over the responsibilities, judicial matters and work orders for Friend and Reynolds Hall.

Amanda Renick, the RHC of University Place, has accepted responsibilities of supervising the activities of the RAs. Karen Sommers, the RHC of Davis and Memorial Halls, has taken over the official title of Assistant Director of Housing and Residence Life and has the responsibilities of supervising the housekeeping staff, the RAs in Friend and Reynolds Halls, the night monitors, attending Behavioral Intervention Team meetings, and the process of removing students from residence halls.

As the Assistant Director of Housing and Residence Life, Sommers manages the other RHCs as well but said, "We work more as a team." The Staff have been able to communicate and work together to overcome the extra responsibilities of the missing RHC.

Sommers said, "I'm busier now; that's all." Sommers has taken a lot more responsibility since she started the job as an RHC in Davis and Memorial Halls just last year. She explained that she doesn't want to overextend herself, so she knows when and where she needs help.

Sommers wants to complete her responsibilities as an RHC before she starts on her extra responsibilities as the Assistant Director. She explained that if her RHC responsibilities are ignored, the consequences trickle down to the RAs and maintenance staff. She



Photo by PSC Communications Department

**Professor Mohammad Saifi gave a presentation on Tuesday October 15th about his home country, Iran. The presentation was well attended.**

Mohammad Saifi presented "Iran before and after the Islamic Revolution" on Thursday, October 15. This presentation described Saifi's life from when he left Iran to come to America as a young adult with only \$750 in his pocket.

Saifi described his life in America and how he has wished to return to Iran, but has never done so because of the freedom he has here.

Saifi explained how he planned to go back after he graduated college, but decided to get his master's degree instead.

Saifi's presentation was educational and explained the differences between Iran, Iraq and Saudi Arabia. Because of this educational aspect, many teachers encouraged their students to attend. The event was well attended.

doesn't want to add more stress to their already very stressful jobs.

Sommers said, "I was planning on getting to this point eventually, just not this soon." The Assistant Director's job is to be reopened and advertised for soon, though a replacement is most likely not going to be hired until next semester or even next year.

This slow hiring speed is due to the extensive search the college must go through. Since the position is to manage so many people and is over a majority of the students who attend the college, the

college needs to interview, investigate potential employee's criminal records, and have the applicant accept the job.

The job will not only include the position as Assistant Director of Housing and Residence Life, but also the position as the RHC over Friend and Reynolds Halls.

This change in positions should not change much for the residents at Potomac State.

The Housing and Residence Life staff is optimistic about the future of their department.



# AROUND CAMPUS

## Splendors of Italy

By Courtney Smith, Staff Writer



The ceiling paintings in the Vatican Museum are amazing.

Photo by Jody Yamamota, National Geographic

Wouldn't you want to spend your spring break in Italy? Learning incredible history. Eating authentic Italian food. Experiencing the Leaning Tower of Pisa, up close and personal. Now, students actually have this chance.

A new tourism/hospitality course, "Splendors of Italy," offered in the spring 2016 semester, will allow students to do just that. "For PSC students, this trip, along with the accompanying class, will serve as an opportunity for students to gain unique and international experience," said Debbie Cruse.

All transportation, hotel accommodations, and daily meals are also included.

If this sounds like something you would be interested in, contact your adviser or Debbie Cruse about getting enrolled in the class. Interest is high and space is limited.

"Just imagine being in the midst of history, culture, customs,

language and food of Italy as you develop an appreciation of the arts, architecture and Italian people," said Cruse.

Highlights of the trip include:

- \*Visits to the Vatican Museum, Sistine Chapel, Colosseum and the Forum in Rome.

- \*Stops in the medieval towns of Orvieto, Siena, San Gimignano, Greve, and Montecatini.

- \*An excursion to Florence that will include a stop at Uffizi Gallery and Duomo.

- \*The square of Miracles and the Leaning Tower of Pisa.

- \*Boat rides through the Venetian lagoon and a visit to St. Mark's Square.

## High School Musical

By Tessa Sawyers, Editor

Do you remember singing along with "High School Musical"?

Potomac State plans to "bop to the top" with the announcement of their spring musical. Disney's High School Musical will be performed March 11-20, 2016.

Auditions will be held on November 15 and 16 at 7 p.m. Interested singers and dancers are only required to attend one night of auditions. Producer Brian Plitnik and Directors Chris McCabe and Kim Rowley ask that individuals arrive early in order to fill out forms and receive instructions for the audition process.

To audition, individuals are required to wear loose fitting dance clothing and comfortable proper shoes. Interested individuals must also prepare a two minute song with accompaniment.

An information night will be held at Church McKee Arts Center,

Room 111 on Thursday, November 5.

Interested students or community members can attend and bring forth any questions they may have about the musical.

Students who would like to participate can also sign up for THET 400 to obtain one lab credit. This performance will showcase jocks, brainiacs, skater dudes and thespians. There is a part meant for everyone! A list is posted at Church McKee for anyone curious about parts.

Call backs are scheduled (if needed) for November 17. Individuals who audition will hear whether or not they made the final cuts no later than the evening of November 20.

For more information, contact Plitnik at 304-788-6969 or email him at [Brian.Plitnik@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:Brian.Plitnik@mail.wvu.edu).

## Crime Increases

By Damien Kesecker, Staff Writer

Campus Police want students to know that campus crime increases over holiday breaks.

Brian Kerling, Chief of Campus police said, "Theft is extremely common during the weeks leading to Thanksgiving break."

With the excitement of Thanksgiving break approaching, students often forget to lock-up their rooms behind them, leaving an opportunity for people to go in and take whatever they want. Students are reminded to always lock their rooms behind them whenever they leave for any amount of time.

Campus police encourage students to store personal belongings out of sight of others and to record the serial numbers of their belongings. A serial number or item description exhibiting one's ownership is necessary for campus police to find what may have been stolen and return it to its proper owner.

If a student is robbed, he/she should contact campus police or their Residence Assistant immediately to report the crime.

# Club News

## DECA Conference

By DeJhard Kimbrough, *Staff*

Lyndasia Jones, current student at Potomac State College, and former students Marquest Brice (now at WVU) and CJ Kendle (now in NC) attended the 2015 International Career Development Conference (Collegiate DECA) in Orlando, FL. Jayne Gilbert, adviser, accompanied the group. DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America) is an international association of high school and college students and teachers of marketing, management and entrepreneurship in business, finance, hospitality, and marketing sales and service.

The conference gave Jones direction. “The conference motivated me to know exactly what I wanted to do,” said Jones. Through the conference, she also was given contacts to help her find a job.

The students competed at the conference. Jones presented a five-minute impromptu speech on a random business question. Her question was “If you were head of marketing for a mall and the IT department wanted to make a mobile app for sales as soon as the customer walked into the mall, what would you do?”

Jones received good feedback from her participation. The other two students prepared a business plan and presented it to the judge.

“How hard you work is the biggest determiner of how well you will do (in life),” said Jones. “Your dress and appearance are also important.”

Disney was one of many major companies that were at the conference. Other businesses in attendance were NFL, NBA, Universal Studios, McDonalds, Chipotle, and various record labels.

Jones plans to go to Georgia Southern University and double major in foreign languages and sports management and minor in marketing.

Potomac State’s DECA club meets every Thursday at 11:30 at the Academic Success Center. Interested students are welcome to attend.

## Circle K Service Club

By Diamond Battle, *Staff*

The Circle K Service Club is an international organization dedicated to community service. They are sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Keyser, who gives them monetary assistance to pay dues to Circle K International.

Jay Badenhop, science professor at Potomac State College, has been a Circle K adviser since 2002.

PSC Serves You is the other club focused mainly on community service. Circle K is smaller, but focuses more on benefits to kids and the Keyser community.

“Potomac State’s Circle K Club was established 1951. It was the first one in the state of West Virginia. There are currently four other

## Creative Writing

By Morgan Dyche, *Page Editor*

Many people have an interest in writing but are scared to let people read their work out of fear of being criticized or judged. Luckily, a club on campus allows writers to get their works critiqued from fellow writers in a judgement-free zone.

The Creative Writing Club is a resource for hopeful writers on campus. Students can take in anything that they have written and share their work with other students and even some faculty.

Ashley Walker, president of the club, said, “We have about six student members and three faculty members.”

No type of writing is rejected from the club. Anything can be read and critiqued.

“People have brought in short stories, poems, introductions to novels and even screenplays,” said Walker.

The creative writing club is going to be involved in an open-mic night that will be held in the library on campus on November 5 at 7:00 p.m. All writers are encouraged to attend. Students are also encouraged to attend the club’s meetings, which are held every Wednesday at 4:30 p.m. in the Science Hall conference room.

Circle K clubs at other colleges, including WVU,” said Badenhop.

The club focuses on doing service projects (like road and school cleanups), after school reading programs and bingo at nursing homes. Circle K Service Club’s special focus is helping children.

They raise funds for organizations like Big Brothers Big Sisters and Relay For Life. They also fund for books for school libraries.

“We’ve had trouble finding a meeting time students can attend. Right now the best way to join the club is request to join our Facebook group, “Circle K Club of Potomac State College,” Badenhop said.

The club benefits PSC because many students have majors that require community service hours, so they provide documentation of those hours for students who participate in club activities. Students can

also have leadership opportunities, such as being an officer or project leader. Students can receive a membership card and pin number.

“We are doing Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF, which is partnered with Kiwanis International,” said Badenhop. The proceeds go to purchase vaccinations for neonatal tetanus for poor countries mostly in Africa. Pregnant mothers who drink contaminated water can become infected and pass along the infection to their unborn child, which can lead to birth defects. If the mothers are vaccinated, the children are born healthy.

“Kiwanis is selling funnel cakes and other concessions at Keyser High School Fall Fest and Circle K helps with that. We want to do other projects – sign up on Facebook and tell us your ideas,” said Badenhop.



# AROUND CAMPUS

## Agriculture

By Drew Constable, Co-Editor

Some Potomac State College agriculture students may be attending classes in the next few weeks at the college's new farm near Fort Ashby.

PSC announced in September that it had received the largest gift in its history, worth 4.2 million dollars, to the Agriculture and Forestry Program.

The donation consists of two parts: a monetary donation worth 3 million dollars and a 364-acre farm.

"It's a really big opportunity for the program," said Ben Walsh, the Unit Coordinator of Agriculture, Forestry, and Campus Farms.

Walsh said that students of certain agriculture classes would be having some of their classes at the new farm as soon as next semester,

and that some of the money would be going towards building an "outdoor classroom" at the new farm.

He also pointed out that the college was able to sell what is known to students as the lower farm or Black Oak Farm, for approximately 1.1 million dollars, and that money is also going back into the agriculture program at PSC.

Walsh said some of the money would be used to "make some really important upgrades to the upper farm." The upper farm is the closest to campus and is the one most often shown to potential new students.

Walsh also noted that the new farm is a bit more distant than the lower farm and that some of the money would be going towards a couple of vans to transport students to the new farm for classes.

## Rotaract Club Nicaragua Fund Raiser

By Shelby Cutlip, Staff Writer

The Rotaract Club is currently raising money for the Nicaraguan Peace Project to help children in Nicaragua learn to speak English so they can get into the tourism business.

The Rotaract Club is collecting soccer balls, school supplies, Spanish/English dictionaries and even old laptops. To donate, give the items to Hannah Boggs or Christine Hess.

Sydney Lanham stated, "It's a really great club for people who care and want to help others around the world. Fundraising to help these kids in Nicaragua just

gives you a great feeling knowing you might make a difference in someone else's life."

According to the Rotaract Club Facebook page, the purpose of the Potomac State College Rotaract Club is to "provide an opportunity for young men and women to enhance the knowledge and skills that will assist them in personal development, to address physical and social needs of their communities, and to promote better relations."

Christine Hess is the adviser for the club, which meets every Thursday at 4 p.m.

The club recently helped with a scrap-booking event on Saturday, September 26 that the Keyser Community Rotaract Club hosted.

## SGA Meetings

By Maria Francis, Co-Editor

The first SGA meeting was held on September 18 in the student union.

In the beginning of the meeting, positions were appointed. The president recommended appointees for the positions of public relations officer, attorney general and treasurer. The legislature then voted the candidates in.

Bekah Platzer and Mason Myers were unanimously voted in as public relations officer and attorney general, respectively.

Elias Sherman, the president appointee, was not elected treasurer. Three affirmative votes and three abstentions blocked the presidential nomination of Elias Sherman for treasurer. Later in the meeting, the president nominated B.J. Sires for the position. Sires was elected.

The third Student Government Association meeting was held on Friday, October 15.

DECA was granted \$150 for their trip to the International Conference Center in D.C. This amount was awarded for transportation and hotel costs. SGA also decided to match them \$150 for fundraising, giving them a total of \$300.

The financial committee recommended that Potomac State discontinue their subscription to USA To-

day. West Virginia University gives all students a free subscription to the New York Times. This motion would save the SGA approximately \$2300, giving them more money for grants, and it was ultimately passed.

Safety, being the primary concern of the SGA, was a huge topic. Non-Traditional Student Representative Gail Houton introduced a bill that would encourage the position for increased police presence around campus as the use of marijuana has been brought up numerous times from students who feel uncomfortable. This house bill passed.

Second, the "Stairs of Death" start on Fort Avenue, follow James Street, and end on St. Cloud Street. Their condition was brought up in a bill introduced by Brandon Borrer. The bill suggested that the city of Keyser be responsible for the safety of the citizens and to put up handrails, fix the steps, and put adequate lighting on the stairs.

Another concern from Borrer was the lack of crosswalks from Catamount Place to the main campus. Catamount Place sits in front of Route 220, a road which students need to cross. Two crosswalks were suggested, and the bill passed.

Photo by Christine Hess

From Left to Right

Kelsey Flanders, Hannah Boggs, Yuri Shimabukuro, Maria Francis, Terry Stephens, Jenna Custer, Stephanie Laporte, Allyssa Grubbs



# AROUND CAMPUS

## Students Complete Internships

By Courtney Smith, Staff Writer

Two Potomac State College students, Damian Kesecker and Nicholas Moss, completed required internships in the spring of 2015.

Damian Kesecker finished a 60-hour internship with local bounty hunter Kevin Clark of K&J Bail Bonds Recovery Agency. Whenever he wasn't at work or in classes, Kesecker corroborated leads, investigated whereabouts of bounties, and maintained gear.

Kesecker said the internship was a major requirement. Although the internship didn't lead to a job, Kesecker said, "I'd definitely do it again."

Students who are involved in internships can get a foot in the

door in the workforce and also learn practical and applicable skills that can be used in future job situations.

Nicholas Moss, a business major, not only completed an internship because it was required, but because he "wanted to get a little bit more experience in the business world." Moss worked at Appalachian Landscape and Services. He worked a minimum of 56 hours per week while still attending college.

Moss mainly performed office-related work for the business. He entered data in QuickBooks, made phone calls to clients, set up appointments, calculated pay roll for employees, created invoices, and completed many other office-related

activities. He said that he learned how to communicate better in a professional environment and that doing the work helped him realize what it was going to take to operate and manage his own business.

He felt the internship gave him a, "better understanding of the daily procedures and operations of a business." Reflecting back on his internship, Moss said, "I learned a large amount of information from the internship and was very glad I did it."

Most of the time these students take internships for little to no pay; therefore, students need to be mindful of the work environment in which they choose to do their internships.

Looking back on his experience Moss said, "If you are looking for an internship, don't just pick any random place. Find something that really interests you and something that you want to do. Then find a place that you will be performing these tasks. Internships are to gain knowledge in different work places, and it also gives you experience that looks great on your record."

One thing that employers are looking for is a demonstrated interest in the field. Internships give students an advantage when entering today's competitive workforce. As Kesecker said, "Don't limit your options, any experience is an opportunity."

## Adventure West Virginia

By Maria Francis, Co-Editor

Three Potomac State freshmen took a chance this past summer. Woody Blass, Quinton Brown, and Heather Park joined the Adventure West Virginia orientation trip to Dolly Sods, which changed their outlook on survival, the wilderness, and themselves.

The three students learned survival and leadership skills such as pitching tents, purifying creek water, tying food bags up at night, and how to build a fire; things they may use in the future.

"At night, you could see as many stars as you possibly could," Blass says. "It was worth it."

One of the most challenging parts of the five-day escapade was

the walking. The hike started with two miles the first day and gradually increased each day. Brown said that this helped with his footwork for sports.

"Being from Morgantown, you don't really know what's out there," Blass said.

This trip gave them the opportunity to meet new people and develop connections. "As soon as we got on the bus, we started to talk and immediately clicked," Blass said.

"One of the people I met is one of my new best friends, Woody," said Brown.

Adventure West Virginia was developed by former Recreation, Parks, and Tourism Resources guide

and current director, Greg Corio in 2002. This program allows students opportunities for leadership skills, enhancement of interpersonal skills, and the development of wilderness skills.

For more information on Adventure West Virginia visit: <http://adventurewv.wvu.edu/> or call: 304.293.5221



Picture Credit Antonio Rascon

Students enjoyed their two mile hike on their first day of orientation.



# AROUND CAMPUS

## Honors High Ropes

By B.J. Sires, Co-Editor



Photo by B.J. Sires

The Honors Program of Potomac State College went to the high adventure ropes course at WVU on Friday, September 25, 2015. This is one of the many activities that members of the honors program have the advantage of participating in throughout the year.

The group of five students and two teachers, including Robert Browning, Andrew Day, Nicholas Miller, William Sires, Skylar Spanburgh, Mrs. Vicki Huffman, and Mrs. Andrea Schaffer, enjoyed their team building journey that started with a bus ride at 7:45 a.m.

Participants started the day with their instructor, Marissa, playing team bonding games. These games were built into the morning so that the participants would grow to know and trust each other, which was needed for the high ropes that they would be participating in later that day.

"We all had to have a common ground; we all had each other's backs," said Day.

After the team had accomplished these games, they moved up the mountain to participate in a ground course. The participants had to work together to cross various balance obstacles while balancing a bucket attached to strings.

Later, the group was finally

allowed to participate in the high ropes. The groups had mixed feelings on the ropes and decided to go on the 35 foot high course instead of the 50 foot course.

The group took the Odyssey training school to learn to "transfer one," "transfer two" and "safety check" to ensure that they would remain safe in the air. Then they were ready to climb.

The group ascended up the ropes to the course. Still some of the participants were scared. The group then had to do different activities while on the ropes. These activities included jumping from one platform to another, being chained together, and becoming an amoeba and absorbing the ropes that crossed their path.

When the group finished the course, they felt accomplished and overall trusting of their peers. "I didn't even cry," exclaimed Spanburgh when she climbed down off the course.

The honors program offers multiple trips throughout the year that give participants opportunities that they would not otherwise get to participate in. Honors students are encouraged to attend these trips and to share ideas for future adventures.

## Minnich, Beavers Talk Journalism

By Maria Francis, Co-Editor

Liz Beavers and Michael Minnich, managing editor and sports editor, respectively, of the Mineral Daily News Tribune visited the Journalism 318 class the week of October 19th to give advice to future journalists.

"Writing was my first love," Beavers said, speaking about her time at Potomac State as a secondary education major. It was at Fairmont State that she found her true calling. Beavers has been with the Mineral Daily News Tribune for 34 years.

Beavers emphasized the importance of self-motivation. She said that without self-motivation, she would have never been able to do her job to her full potential. She said that journalists should "have a thick skin" and to put personal feelings aside to tell a story.

Minnich, a graduate of WVU, has been with the newspaper for seven years. As the only full-time sports editor, working six days a

week can be very stressful. He covers most of the teams around this area (Keyser, Frankfort, Mountain Ridge, and Potomac State).

Minnich, a Keyser graduate, is careful about covering games fairly and giving equal space to local schools. Minnich also covers national sports occurrences, mostly sports teams from around this area.

Not only does Minnich work at the newspaper, he also hosts his own freelance radio show for the Washington Spirit, a women's soccer team. His show reaches about 15,000 people on average, but on one occasion reached about 30,000.

Minnich enjoyed many internships while at WVU and advises students to take as many internships possible.

"Networking is important," he said. "If you do a good job [the people you are working for] will probably hire you, or create a job for you."

## Shades of Blue; Theater Fund Raiser

By Courtney Smith, Staff Writer

A family-friendly musical performance and incredible light show, Shades of Blue, will be held at the Church-McKee Arts Center on Sunday, November 15 at 2 p.m. The fund raiser will help the PSC

Theater Department with expenses for the 2016 spring musical. The event will be comprised of talented musicians from six different area bands. Tickets are \$10 and will be available at the door.

## ARTS

## Robert Singleton's Art "Paints Itself"

By Amber Twigg, Contributing Writer

Robert Singleton, a world-renowned artist, unveiled his most recent work at the Landes Art Center in Petersburg. Singleton spent about twenty years in a reclusive state, avoiding the burden of sharing his genius with the artistic community. Singleton invited Potomac State's art history class to Petersburg for an intimate speech and a tour of his work. He spoke of his inspirations, his muses, and some of his signature styles that he incorporates in almost every piece. As to be expected, his work sent chills down the spine of everyone in that gallery.

First, came the importance of the horizontal line in his photos – he described this line as “the division of the sky and the earth,” which spoke to him on a very personal level.

Second was the circle; Singleton mentioned how his camera lens had, at first glance, seemed imperfect, but the longer he stared



Potomac State's Art History class learned about Singleton's work. (Left to Right): Stacy Simone, Jean C. Massó, Heather Liberati, Faith Nelson, Amber Twigg, Robert Singleton, Angela Keeney, Shelby Brothers, Jamie Cooper, Jessica McGinnis, Cait Bushey, Hassan Forrester, and Darlene Frederick (Professor).

at the photos he noticed how there was a halo around the image. This was the beginning of Singleton's infatuation with a circle. He now interprets a circle as a symbol for a never-ending infinity.

Then, there was the realization of organic shapes versus geomet-

ric and how both trigger different emotional responses: organic creates an emotional response, while geometric creates an intellectual one. Singleton emphasized the importance of these shapes, which then led him to discuss how combining the two can create a

very visceral reaction to a piece of art that connects with both parts of the mind.

Towards the end of Singleton's speech, he began to touch on his latest inspiration. He set the scene for a story that sparked his most current muse, and it came to him very simply; he wanted to paint clouds, and so he did.

Singleton's art show, *For the Joy of Light*, was radiant. It spoke with great volumes, and many pieces were considered to be very spiritual, very intense. Not religious, but definitely spiritual.

As the class walked to view each piece, making sure to stand back to gather it all in, he was questioned on how he begins his creative process and if he has an exact image in his mind. With this intrusive, but welcomed question, he uttered the most sincere, raw words an artist could possibly say: the “...art paints itself.”

## Highland Arts Unlimited

By Tessa Sawyers, Editor

The 43rd season kicked off on September 11th for the Highland Arts Unlimited(HAU) Committee. The first event showcased The Duttons who entertained with a medley of classical to bluegrass music.

The Duttons gave Keyser a high-energy performance before

continuing their tour through West Virginia to Parkersburg. They thanked West Virginia for its amazing audiences.

The Highland Arts Committee will host three more events throughout the 2015-2016 school year, which will be free for Potomac State students who present their identification badge.

The Christmas show at Church McKee, on December 6, will feature Landau Eugene Murphy, West Virginian America's Got Talent Winner. Marshall Barnhouse, Pianist, will perform on April 17 at the Presbyterian Church. The final

program will also be held on May 7 at the church and will feature Mountainside Baroque.

“We are really excited for the rest of this season,” said Rebecca Whitehill, organizer of the HAU. Whitehill anticipates the highest turnouts for The Duttons and Murphy.

The HAU also participates in community involvement. The committee bussed Mineral County sixth graders to see the West Virginia Symphony on October 15th.

Attaining funding and organization is undoubtedly the hardest part of the preparation for these

events. Whitehill said, “We’ve been trying to raise enough money to get Landau Murphy here for three years.”

Whitehill stated that the HAU has already started preparation and planning for next year.

Admission for events is free for HAU members, Potomac State Students with an I.D. and young children attending with an adult. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for students and can be found in advance at Anderson's Corner, Reed's Drug Store, The Candlewyc, The Allegany Arts Council, or by calling 304-788-3066.



# Pop Culture

## Remembering Horror Master Wes Craven

By Morgan Dyche *Staff Editor*

Horror master, Wes Craven, unfortunately passed away on August 31, 2015 at the age of 76. His death is saddening to see because he was such a wonder filmmaker and had a large influence on the industry. That fact is made even more so with it being so close to the time that Craven's films meant the most to his viewers -- Halloween. This Halloween take the time to honor the loss of a true great and watch these three horror masterpieces that Craven brought to the world.

### The Last House of the Left (1972)

Craven's directorial debut, "The Last House on the Left" received mixed reviews, but one thing it did do was make a name for Craven. The graphic violence struck a nerve with audiences and instantly became a cult hit in grindhouse theaters. Even the late Roger Ebert gave the film three and a half out of five stars. The film is a truly horrifying film that is worth at least one watch and can be found on Netflix streaming services. Just make sure to remind yourself, it's only a movie.

### A Nightmare on Elm Street (1984)

The most famous of all of Wes Craven's films, "A Nightmare on Elm Street" is a film that has lasted the test of time. Over 30 years after its original release, the film is still hailed as a masterpiece of horror cinema. The film's use of blurred reality made it seem as if anything could happen, which did. The film still has a 94% on Rotten Tomatoes and continues to be a traditional watch for Halloween. This masterpiece is available on Netflix, Amazon, and on I-Tunes.

### Scream (1996)

Craven's meta film that deconstructed horror clichés that he helped create is still loved and enjoyed by many. The film even spawned 3 sequels and a TV show on MTV of the same name. This film was endlessly copied and parodied after its release as well. The film is brilliantly self-aware, while also being one of the most terrifying slasher films ever. The end twist is also mind blowing, especially during the first watch. The original trilogy is available on Netflix while the fourth installment is only on Amazon and I-Tunes.

## Students Attend Renaissance Fair

By Trevor Edgell-Kesner, *Contributing Writer*

Do you like jousting? Knights? The medieval period? Good, if so, read on! A trip was offered to English 241, 263, and Classic 232 students to attend a renaissance fair in Cornwall, PA. Learning about it is one thing; experiencing it is another.

Professor Deanna Armentrout and Professor Martha Johnson-Olin organized the trip. Once we got there, the day really picked up with people in costume interacting with festival-goers all around us. Even people that weren't part of the fair dressed up. Sometimes I'd even find knights walking around with sword in hand.

The Cast in Bronze, famous for playing the medieval instrument carillon, played for attendees. There were other entertainers performing

such as Circus Stella, with Dexter Tripp and his wife Jana Colgin, and a whip-and-sword entertainer named Aaron Bonk, who was mak-

ing his Pennsylvania Renaissance Fair debut.

The fair itself carried a storyline throughout the day as it does every

year. It carried its namesake of the "Halloween Daze and Spooky Knights" since there were supernatural elements at play with this one.

The storyline plays out on a set schedule at different locations around the fairgrounds. The events open with the King's Court, which transitions to the Tournament Joust, then Human Chess. The evening ends with the Ultimate Joust, which is where the major supernatural elements come into play.

There was a villain channeling the spirit of his dead king while cursing the current ruler of England. Then, there were pyrotechnics as part of the stage exploded in colorful fire. The evening closed with the Finale in Song where they recapped the events of the day with songs and short skits.



Pictured (Left to Right): Rickey Shoemaker, Trevor Edgell-Kesner, Miranda Craddock, Salina Melotti, Brittany Kaufman, Lynette Kaufman, Toby Haggarty, Shannon Haggarty, Deanna Armentrout, Dr. Martha Johnson-Olin



# OPINION

## Political Apathy at PSC?

By Drew Constable, Co-Editor

As we move into late October, one thing is for sure. American Presidential politics are in full swing.

I have started to noticed something: Potomac State College students seem completely apathetic about the election.

As I moved about campus, asking friends and acquaintances about their opinions on the 2016 election, it seems that my peers don't care about the election.

While some people mention the Donald Trumps and the Hillary Clintons of the world, I hear very few other names mentioned on campus as favorites to win the presidency.

So I recently set out to ask

students a simple question: Are you voting in 2016, and do you care who is elected?

**“Carson performed eye surgery on my mom when she was a kid.”**

Matt Spencer, a sophomore, described the chances he would vote as a “maybe” and that he was “not at all” excited to vote. Spencer indicated that his two favorites are Hillary Clinton and Dr. Ben Carson, in that order. Spencer said he would consider voting for Carson because “Carson performed eye surgery on my mom when she was a kid,” and because “I have actually met him a couple of times.”

Lea Anna Baker, a freshmen, said that she planned to vote, and she is excited to vote for a female candidate in Hillary Clinton.

LaBrea Morris, a sophomore, said she will be voting “since a woman is running for president.” She continued, “It doesn't have to be a male-dominated world, and this gives the opportunity to show that men and women are equal.”

Skyelar Funk, a freshman, said that he would not be voting this cycle because “they are all crooks.”

**“They are all crooks.”**

Aaron Joseph, a freshman, said he will vote, and is excited to vote for Bernie Sanders.

Justin Washington, a sophomore, said he does not plan to vote, but “if Bernie Sanders wins the Democratic nomination,” he

would get excited to vote.

Chelsea Combs, a sophomore, said she will not be voting because “I just don't like any of the candidates.” Combs added, “Donald Trump is just too arrogant.”

Tya Anderson, a freshman, said she is undecided on voting. Anderson said Joe Biden would be the candidate she could get excited for. She continued, “If Joe Biden doesn't run, I would consider voting for Trump, because I feel like he would eliminate unnecessary welfare.”

While I was not greeted with an incredible amount of excitement pertaining to the 2016 election, I also did not find many students who planned to skip voting. Most students had a favorite candidate in the race, and at least a mild interest in going to the polls.

## PSC Holds Mini-Relay for Life

By Damien Kesecker, Staff Writer

Potomac State College of WVU held a mini Relay for Life on October 22, 2015. Students, faculty, and community members were all invited to enjoy the live music, food, and other fun activities held at the event.

Seven cancer survivors were in attendance and together they completed the first lap displaying the Relay for Life banner as the opening ceremony. Other guests present at the event include Miss WV Chelsea Malone, The WVU Moun-

taineer and PAWS the mascot.

Several PSC clubs, including the Criminal Justice, Ag and Forestry, and Catamounts Against Cancer Clubs were present and sold goods to raise money for the event. The Criminal Justice Club held a 50/50 raffle and the winner, Donna Ballard, gave 50% of her winnings to Relay for Life.

Luminary bags were sold for \$2.00 each to raise money. Over 100 luminary bags were sold and the they trailed from the flagpole to the Memorial Hall stairs.

Several community establishments made donations including Fox's Pizza, McDonalds, and the Candlewyck Inn. Professor Tom Sydow made a celebrity chef appearance at the Candlewyck Inn and 10% of the proceeds were given to Relay for Life as a dedication to the late Chef Vieli who lost his battle with cancer two years ago.

## Dear Editor,

The beginning of fall for most people feels like New Year's, a fresh start to the season; however, this year came with some unusually mixed feelings. Not long after the beginning of fall there were at least four burglaries in University Place within a week and one of them happened to a close friend. Little is known about what was taken, but in one room three gaming consoles (totaling around \$1,200) were stolen. It is known for a fact that they didn't leave the dorms, because the closest exits would've taken the thieves directly outside in front of the dorms where everyone was hanging out after dinner. I would like to propose a solution that would help decrease these acts: more cameras should be put up at the end of each hallway and in front of the

elevators. Depending on the quality of the cameras, we may not locate a burglar immediately, but it would help cross out important factors such as when and where they were, how many people were involved and at least pinpoint what floor and hall they're in.

Craig Prewitt

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# Faculty

## Chisholm

By Staff



Photo by PSC Communications Department

Sheri Chisholm, an Assistant Professor of Biology from Arts and Sciences, recently earned her Doctorate in Institutional Leadership and Biology Education. Chisholm teaches the human anatomy and physiology courses. She also teaches some of general biology for non-biology majors.

Chisholm has been working at PSC for seven years. "I really enjoy working with students and seeing them be successful. I also have really great co-workers," said Chisholm.

Like everyone, Chisholm has her strengths and weaknesses when it comes to work. "I think my strengths are that I am pretty easy going, organized and I have a deep

knowledge base and quite a bit of experience. My weakness is my ability to procrastinate, and I am not a great 'morning' person," said Chisholm.

"There is a lot of faculty responsibility outside of the department. We have not only our teaching load, but are required to participate in service which may include committees and activities outside of the college," said Chisholm, who serves on seven committees.

She is also Maryland's 4H Hippology Coach. It's a team that is made up of high school juniors and seniors. They'll be traveling to Ohio and Kentucky this fall for National Competitions.

The Arts and Sciences Department helps the students at PSC academically by offering tutoring and regular office hours. As final exams get closer, the department offers study, help, and review sessions.

## Snider

By Staff



Photo by PSC Communications Department

Former visiting instructor Mary Snider is now a tenure-track instructor of anthropology and Sociology at Potomac State College.

"I really like the people. Everyone is very friendly, professional and open minded," Snider said.

Although things seem to change a bit each semester, Snider doesn't let it affect her work ethic at PSC.

"Things always seem to adjust and change a little bit each semester. We have a new department chair, Jennifer Merrifield," Snider said.

"We have a department meeting monthly. I also have meetings every other week for the Anthropology Club."

This is Snider's second year at Potomac State. Snider really enjoys her job in the department.

## New Library Director

By Tessa Sawyers, Editor-in-Chief

The Mary F. Shipper Library will be receiving a face-lift from new director, Dr. Charles Julian. Julian plans on applying his repertoire of library experience and utilizing his talented staff in order to bring about a more student-centered library.

Julian earned his Doctorate in Philosophy and Library Science from Florida State University. He also has a bachelor's degree in Education from Glenville State College, where he graduated Magna Cum Laude. He is a life-time member of the American Library Association and the West Virginia Library Association, and he has received several service awards for his outstanding dedication.

As a first generation college student, Julian feels that he can better connect with students that are in the same situation. Julian said, "The small size of Potomac

State College means that everyone who works here has a chance to connect one-on-one with students and faculty."

Some ideas for improving the library have already been set in motion by Julian. Beginning September 26, the library opened for planned events on selective Saturdays. A fully operational Library Committee is in the works, which will include two students and a community member. Outdated printed material is being recycled to make room for more workspaces. Julian also plans to work more closely with the Academic Success Center on promoting and reaching academic goals and activities together.

Improving the library will not happen overnight; Julian has been meeting with a lot of people on campus to discover what other ideas they have for an effective



Photo by PSC Communications Department  
library. Julian's office is on the second floor of the library, and his door is always open.



# SPORTS

## From the Land Down Under

By Hannah Kress, *contributing writer*

Here I am on the other side of the world, thousands of miles away, experiencing an opportunity of a lifetime. I, along with five other Australians, am in the cute, small town of Keyser, after we were recruited to play soccer at PSC. A question I get asked almost every day is “how on earth did you and the other soccer-playing Australians hear about Potomac State College?” It’s a fair question, and the story that comes with it is one that has honestly changed my life.

If you had asked me a couple of years ago about my dreams and where I would be after high school, I would not have answered “Potomac State College.” I have played soccer for four years. I played on several leagues. Every time I went out and played, I would give it my all.

I remember receiving a letter in the post from the Football Federation of South Australia during my first year at Cumberland (Australia) informing me I had been selected to attend some trials. These trials would progress to an interview, which would then lead to 20 people from each state being placed on a recruitment program and hence promoted to American colleges.

This kind of opportunity is the stuff that dreams are made of, and although I was not the most talented soccer player and thought I had no chance of making it, I attended the trials just to see my ability compared to other soccer players within my state. The trial included three small-sided games. To my pleasant



surprise, I received another letter a week later inviting me and 44 other girls to an interview.

I remember when I received this second letter my heart jumped into my throat; I was just so excited. At this interview, we were asked to provide school reports and were asked a series of questions – it was the only real opportunity we received to make a great, individual impression and truly stand out. Again, I received a letter a week later saying that I had been placed on the recruitment program, and honestly, the feeling was unreal. I was about to be promoted to coaches on the other side of the world, and so many opportunities were about to come my way.

After making videos of my game play, gathering references

## Strong Kick to the Finish

By DeJhard Kimbrough, *Staff Writer*



Photo by PSC Communications Department

Runners stretch before running the Frostburg Invitational Race hosted by Frostburg State University.

Cross Country is off to another great season. “We’ve done some great things. We have been on the podium three out of our first four meets,” said Coach Ian Hankins, the head coach for Cross Country.

Hankins believes that his team has a real shot to win the region championship this year. Jared Hollow, a freshman, started off the year by setting a school record in the 5k run. Hollow also placed second in four consecutive meets. Hollow is ranked seventh in the nation. Matthew Spencer, Greg Dirlik and Pierce Miller have also been consistent runners throughout the season

with multiple top 10 finishes between them.

“It’s been a great challenge,” said Hankins, who started up the cross country team from scratch just two years ago, and is now in his second year.

“I believe that we can be a top five team this year.”

Another challenge is bringing the women’s team up to the same level as the men’s. The cross country team only consists of one woman runner right now, but coach Hankins hopes to bring in more women runners next season.

from previous coaches, writing recruitment statements, and choosing photos for the website in which I was expressing the least hideous game faces, I received an email from Coach Sprouse at Potomac State offering me a place on the women’s soccer team.

Receiving that email was honestly one of the best days of my life, and I just remember feeling so thankful and just excited for the fu-

ture ahead of me. Studying overseas has provided me with the opportunity to live independently, learn about myself, and study a course I am really passionate about all while playing the game I love and improving my ball skills whilst bonding with an amazing team. So while Potomac State is small and located in a tight community, I can say that all the Australians have been welcomed and made to feel right at home.

# SPORTS

## A Great Season

By DeJhard Kimbrough

After a 2-2 start to the season, the volleyball team has been able to rebound to have a nice season. They are currently 16-4 (including 12-1 in the region), which puts them in first



Photo by PSC Communications Department

place going into the last couple of weeks in the season. They recently beat third-ranked Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA) in straight sets.

Volleyball had two key region games against Frederick Community College (October 20) and Hagerstown (October 24) which were two "big matches," according to Head Coach Martha Ganoe. They lost to Frederick Community College, but bounced back nicely to beat Hagerstown.

The team had two early losses

in the first tournament of the year in North Carolina, and the other one came against nationally-ranked Catawba Community College. "We played well considering all the new changes we were putting into place then," said Ganoe. Some of the changes included a key player quitting towards the beginning of the season. "We were re-learning and getting use to new positions."

"We have great team chemistry," said Ganoe, which has allowed the volleyball team to have another great season.

## Final Goal

By Drew Constable, Co-Editor

The Potomac State College Men's Soccer team season has ended with a defeat in the Region XX Tourney.

The Catamounts lost their final match to the Anne Arundel Riverhawks 5-1.

This comes after the Cats lost its regular season finale to the Frederick Community College Cougars 2-1.

The Catamounts finish the season with a 8-7 record.

Tyler Sisler finished the season

as the Catamount's scoring and assists leader with 17 goals and 9 assists.

Dylan Romine was second on the team for scoring with 10 goals on the season, followed by Rhys Fing with 5 goals recorded.

Rhys Fing and Brett Vanderhout tied for the second most team assist on the season with 5 a piece.

Goal Keeper Alec Sproule finished the season with 65 saves, and a .802 save percentage.

## Going, Going, Gone

By Jaiquan Parker, staff writer

Potomac State Baseball team plans to make the Junior College World Series in 2016.

Coach Little said "he'd give it a C" when grading their performance in the first of the three Labor Day weekend "intra-squad" games. Little is a former student athlete.

Little said he "looks for players who are responsible who can perform on the field." This is Little's 19th year coaching at Potomac State. Little said he's counting on returning players to help the new players learn the system

Freshman right-handed pitcher, Connor Christner, from Meyersdale, Pennsylvania is eager to get the season started. Christner said he's been playing "since he could walk." Christner sets his goals high as he hopes to "give up no runs." Christner majors in sports management and aspires to be a head coach of a baseball team.

Freshman pitcher, Austin Cordell, from Princeton, got a chance to play in the first game of the Labor Day weekend. Cordell said, "I wasn't nervous. It was a little overwhelming at first, but once you get

to know the guys and the coaches and what the college environment is like, it's pretty good." Cordell also said, "the hitters that I faced that day were controlling the game better than I was; that's not how it should be. As I progress, it'll get better."

Cordell has been pitching since he was a freshman in high school. Cordell said, "I used to play first baseman, but since I'm left handed, I have a better chance of making it to a higher level as a pitcher." Cordell also majors in sports management with the aspirations of being a head coach someday.

Their fall season is in full swing, and the team is progressing well. Little said, "our goal is the same as any other team in this league; to make it to the JUCO World Series." The team is scheduled to open their spring season in February.

As of press time, they are 14-1 this season with an impressive win over the WVU varsity team.

The team finished last season with a 37-10 record and an advancement to district finals where they fell short.



Photo by PSC Communications Department